



East/West Grand Terre Islands Restoration (BA-30)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2000 **Cost:** \$1.86 million
Project Area: 683 acres **Status:** Engineering and Design
Net Benefit after 20 Years: 335 acres
Project Type: Barrier Island Restoration

Location

This project is located at the mouth of Barataria Bay in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. The islands are bordered by Barataria Bay to the north, Barataria Pass and Grand Isle to the west, Quatre Bayou Pass to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

Problems

Over time, the high frequency of tropical storms, high bay and gulf shoreline erosion rates, the subsidence of back barrier marshes, and a lack of sand in an already sediment-deprived system have caused the breakup of Grand Terre into two islands. In addition, these processes have resulted in the loss of natural terrestrial and aquatic barrier island habitats.

Restoration Strategy

The barrier shoreline of western Grand Terre Island will be restored by constructing 40 acres of dune from the Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Biological Laboratory to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' disposal area. Dune platforms will be planted with marshhay cordgrass (*Spartina patens*) and bitter panicum (*Panicum amarum*) and the marsh platform will be planted with smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*).

Progress to Date

Surveying, sand search, and preliminary design are in progress.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 9.



Aerial view of the Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Biological Laboratory on west Grand Terre Island.



Barrier island habitat such as this will be restored with this project.

For more project information, please contact:



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National Marine Fisheries Service
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Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
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